ANESTHESIOLOGY REFLECTIONS

Bernard on Anesthetics and Asphyxia

A French dramatist-turned-physiologist, Claude Bernard (1813–1878) promoted use of the scientific method and of observers blinded to treatments rendered. He conducted pioneering research in pancreatic, hepatic, and vasomotor physiology. As the first chair of physiology at the Sorbonne, Bernard received laboratory funding from Louis Napoleon himself. In 1989 the Wood Library-Museum published Bernard’s classic 1875 work (see above) in English as Lectures on Anesthetics and on Asphyxia, courtesy of his translator and namesake, Bernard Raymond Fink, M.D. (Copyright © the American Society of Anesthesiologists, Inc. This image appears in color in the Anesthesiology Reflections online collection available at www.anesthesiology.org.)

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